

## **What is claimed is:**

**[Claim 1]** A Faraday rotator having wavelength selectivity, for selectively rotating only the polarization plane of incident light of given wavelengths, the Faraday rotator comprising:

a magneto-optical part for rotating the polarization plane of incident light traveling in the direction of said magneto-optical part's magnetic field; and  
a dielectric multi-layer film in which a low refractive-index layer and a high refractive-index layer are laminated in alternation, for localizing within said magneto-optical part incident light of at least one wavelength.

**[Claim 2]** The Faraday rotator set forth in claim 1, wherein said dielectric multi-layer film localizes within said magneto-optical part incident light of plural wavelengths.

**[Claim 3]** The Faraday rotator set forth in claim 1, wherein said magneto-optical part is constituted from a gadolinium iron garnet thin film.

**[Claim 4]** The Faraday rotator set forth in claim 1, wherein said dielectric multi-layer film is composed by laminating in alternation silicon oxide as a low refractive-index layer, and titanium oxide as a high refractive index layer.

**[Claim 5]** The Faraday rotator set forth in claim 1, wherein said magneto-optical part and said dielectric multi-layer film are formed integrally by a vapor-phase process.

**[Claim 6]** An optical isolator having wavelength selectivity, for selectively blocking return beams from incident light of given wavelengths only, the optical isolator comprising:

a magneto-optical part for rotating the polarization plane of incident light traveling in the direction of said magneto-optical part's magnetic field;  
a magnetic part for applying a magnetic field to said magneto-optical part;  
a dielectric multi-layer film in which a low refractive-index layer and a high refractive-index layer are laminated in alternation, for localizing within said magneto-optical part incident light of at least one wavelength;  
a polarizer for picking out polarized components from incident beams; and  
an analyzer utilized in combination with said polarizer.

[Claim 7] The optical isolator set forth in claim 6, wherein said dielectric multi-layer film localizes within said magneto-optical part incident light of plural wavelengths.

[Claim 8] The optical isolator set forth in claim 6, wherein said magneto-optical part is constituted from a gadolinium iron garnet thin film.

[Claim 9] The optical isolator set forth in claim 6, wherein said magnetic part is constituted from a gallium-nitride magnetic semiconductor thin film that exhibits ferromagnetism at room temperature and is transparent to light.

[Claim 10] The optical isolator set forth in claim 6, wherein said dielectric multi-layer film is composed by laminating in alternation silicon oxide as a low refractive-index layer, and titanium oxide as a high refractive index layer.

[Claim 11] The optical isolator set forth in claim 6, wherein said polarizer and said analyzer are lent a structure having distributed refractive indices, by irradiating with either a particle beam or an energy beam a diamond-like carbon thin film along a bias with respect to the film's thickness direction.

[Claim 12] The optical isolator set forth in claim 11, wherein said particle beam is an ion beam, an electron beam, a proton beam,  $\alpha$ -rays, or a neutron beam; and said energy beam is light rays, X-rays or  $\gamma$ -rays.

[Claim 13] The optical isolator set forth in claim 6, wherein said magneto-optical part, said magnetic part, said dielectric multi-layer film, said polarizer, and said analyzer are formed integrally by a vapor-phase process.

[Claim 14] A polarizer lent a characteristic structure having distributed refractive indices, by irradiating with either a particle beam or an energy beam a diamond-like carbon thin film along a bias with respect to the film's thickness direction.

[Claim 15] The polarizer set forth in claim 14, wherein said particle beam is an ion beam, an electron beam, a proton beam,  $\alpha$ -rays, or a neutron beam; and said energy beam is light rays, X-rays or  $\gamma$ -rays.

[Claim 16] A diamond-like carbon thin film characterized in being transparent in the light region, and in having an extinction coefficient that is  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  or less at optical-communications wavelengths of from 1200 nm to 1700 nm.

[Claim 17] An optics component, characterized by utilizing the diamond-like carbon thin film set forth in claim 16.

[Claim 18] The optical isolator set forth in claim 11, wherein said diamond-like carbon thin film is transparent in the light region, and has an extinction coefficient that is  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  or less at optical-communications wavelengths of from 1200 nm to 1700 nm.

[Claim 19] The optical isolator set forth in claim 12, wherein said diamond-like carbon thin film is transparent in the light region, and has an extinction

coefficient that is  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  or less at optical-communications wavelengths of from 1200 nm to 1700 nm.

[Claim 20] The polarizer set forth in claim 14, wherein said diamond-like carbon thin film is transparent in the light region, and has an extinction coefficient that is  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  or less at optical-communications wavelengths of from 1200 nm to 1700 nm.

[Claim 21] The polarizer set forth in claim 15, wherein said diamond-like carbon thin film is transparent in the light region, and has an extinction coefficient that is  $3 \times 10^{-4}$  or less at optical-communications wavelengths of from 1200 nm to 1700 nm.